

REMARKS

The present Preliminary Amendment introduces new claims 19-38 for prosecution. New claims 19-38 broaden the scope of original claims 1-18 by eliminating the spike as one element of the insect bait station.

New independent claim 19 is similar to original claim 1 except it adds the limitation that the doorway includes an upper lintel disposed at a height from the floor of the open top base such that the inner rim is located above the upper lintel. Claim 19 further does not require the presence of a spike. Support for this feature of the invention can be found in the specification as filed at page 2, lines 19-23, page 6, lines 17-20, and Figure 4.

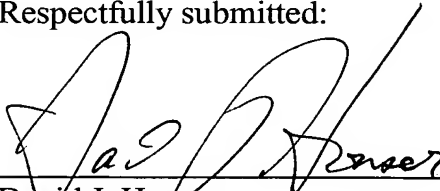
Dependent claims 20-30 are similar to original dependent claims 2-12 with the exception that new claim 25 reintroduces the spike as one element of the combination.

New independent claim 31 is similar to original claim 13 except it does not call for a longitudinally extending spike extending downwardly from the well floor. It is directed toward the cap struts extending across the underside of the cap. Dependent claims 32-38 are similar to original claims 14-18 except new claim 35 introduces the feature wherein the doorway has an upper lintel disposed at a height which is below the height of the inner rim. Also, new claim 36 reintroduces the spike as one element of the combination.

Examination on the merits of claims 1-38 is herein requested.

Respectfully submitted:

Dated: 18 Dec 2003



David J. Houser
Reg. No. 29,172
(262) 260-2206